

The Intelligencer.

Close of the Session.

The 12th session of the West Virginia Legislature was formally ended last night after an adjourned sitting of forty-four days. The House has gone out of existence as a Court of Impachment. It will reassemble as a court to try the Auditor and Treasurer on the articles presented by the House, on the 13th of January next. It is an open question whether it will have any power to exercise any of the functions of a Senate when it reassembles. The members did not seem to be agreed on that point last night. A motion was made by one Senator to adjourn until the 13th of January next, which motion was sustained to the effect that they adjourn to reassemble as a Court of Impachment. Upon this motion the yeas and nays being demanded it was discovered that no quorum was present, whereupon a motion was made to adjourn sine die, but the President did not put this motion as made, but simply that the Senate adjourn, thus leaving the point unsettled whether the body is still in esse as a Senate or not. However it is a point of no great importance since at best it could only transact executive business in the absence of the House of Delegates. Therefore no fine spun argument need be wasted on the subject.

We publish this morning a list of the acts passed by the two Houses. The schedule comprehensively a title of the bills introduced. The usual number of local bills, introduced, a Senator Davis, for example, asking for appropriations for roads and bridges, sleep the sleep of oblivion, as it is called and proper. One or two such bills did get through both houses, but as a general thing they were pretty effectually squelched. The Democracy have enough to answer for before the people without swelling the deficit of \$100,000, already acknowledged, with appropriations for all the cross-roads throughout the State. The mere expenses of the present adjourned session, such as the pay of members, clerks, &c., will amount to over \$30,000, which is a good-sized load of it to carry into the next canvass, considering the purpose for which the session was called. And the end is not yet, for the Senate is to reassemble in January, and who knows but that it may, after the French fashion, constitute itself a "convention en permanence."

The present session of the Legislature has made more manifest than ever the difficulty—the almost impossibility—of legislating intelligently under the present bungled Constitution. The disgust expressed for that muddled specimen of organic law has been quite emphatic. Perhaps by the assembling of the next Legislature, after the discussions that will assuredly take place on the hearings have been heard, the people will be ready to demand the passage of the Scott amendment offered at Charleston two years ago, viz: the re-adoption of the old Constitution with such additions as the present condition of the State may call for.

Without stopping, however, this morning to enter into particulars touching the legislation of the session just closed, we may be permitted to express the hope that it will be many a day before an occasion will again arise calling for an extraordinary session of the West Virginia Legislature. Still more devoutly do we hope that no similar developments in any of the departments of the State government will ever again afford an excuse for holding such a session.

An Animated Debate.

It is said that a lively debate took place yesterday in the secret session of the Senate over the confirmation of the Governor's nominees for the equalization of assessments. The Senator from Marshall was especially loud and hostile, and it is said, almost abused his relations to the party in the heat of his indignation. Among the points he made was one to the effect that none of the nominees were farmers, and therefore unfitted to deal with real estate assessments. Whether it is all the nominees or one of them in particular that the Senator aimed at is a question we shall not here and now decide.

West Virginia Legislature.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

THURSDAY, December 23, 1875.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and the session was opened with prayer by the Rev. D. W. Fisher.

Mr. Wilson, chairman of the Committee on Enrolled Bills, announced their ready signature of the Speaker.

On motion of Gettler, the rules being suspended, engrossed H. R. 123, relating to insurance companies, and prescribing the mode of procuring authority to transact business in this State for such companies, was taken up, read a third time and passed with its title.

A communication from the Executive was received, accompanied by a communication from the Executive of Virginia, in relation to the appointment of Directors for the Cross-Roads and Summit Point turnpike, which lies partly in Jefferson county in this State, and partly in Clarke county, Virginia.

A message from the Senate announced the passage of S. J. R. 33, providing for the printing and distribution of the Acts of the Legislature of 1875, and asked the concurrence of the House.

Mr. McElwain offered the following concurrent resolution:

Resolved, That the Senate concurring, the Legislature adjourn sine die at 12 o'clock A. M.

On motion of Mr. Welch, the rules being suspended, H. R. 96, amending and re-enacting sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of chapter 12 of the Code of West Virginia, relating to license for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and repealing chapter 99 of the Acts of 1872, together with a substitute therefor, entitled "A Bill amending and re-enacting chapter 33 of the Code of West Virginia and repealing chapter 99 of the Acts of 1872, relating to regulations respecting liquors and the sale of intoxicating liquors," was passed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Simpson, by unanimous consent, called up H. R. 123, known as the Appraiser's bill, which was read a third time and passed.

S. B. 125, in relation to the boundary

line between Virginia and West Virginia, was passed.

Various resolutions complimentary to the Chairman of the different committees were offered and adopted.

Also to the Presiding officer, clerks and pages.

Mr. Jordan asked and obtained leave to withdraw S. B. 187 from the files of the House.

Mr. West, of Harrison, offered a resolution, the tenor of which was that the House to the citizens of Wheeling for their uniform kindness and courtesy to the members of this body during the adjourned session. Adopted.

Mr. Good offered a resolution tendering the thanks of the House to the members thereof for their zeal in attending to the interests of the people. Voted down as unimportant.

Mr. Gettler offered a resolution that the House resolve itself into a Mutual Admiration Society, but on the appeal of members withdrew it.

A recess was ordered until 9 o'clock P. M.

IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, December 23.

Senate met at 9 o'clock A. M.

Mr. Bennett offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the Senate cannot forget the constant and industrious attention of the several pages, and by reason of their fidelity the same mileage and per diem is awarded to them that is allowed by the House of Delegates to their officers and clerks of this Senate. It is structured to issue his certificate accordingly.

Mr. Good offered a resolution to employ C. H. Hodgson, committee clerk, to arrange and index the Acts passed at the present session of the Legislature, and pay him \$100 for so doing. The resolution was passed by the Senate and sent to the House of Delegates for its concurrence therein.

The committee appointed to examine the claims of the office reported that they found the journal had been properly kept and that the papers were kept in an excellent system. The Senate then went into Executive session to consider certain nominations sent in by the Governor.

The Executive session continued until 12 o'clock M. when the Senate took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M. when it met again.

Mr. Caldwell's resolution authorizing the Governor to inform the Legislature of the West Virginia is ready to co-operate with the Legislature of the State of West Virginia, and to request information upon the subject from the Virginia officials.

A message was received from the Governor informing the Senate that he had vetoed the Senate bill amending chapter 114 of the Code, because a similar law is contained in the Acts of 1872-3. The bill was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, the Senate again went into Executive session.

At 3 o'clock P. M. the doors were opened.

H. R. 46, providing for the appointment of a joint committee to wait on the Governor, was received from the House of Delegates and adopted by the Senate.

Messrs. Grantham and Ferrel were not present as members of said committee, and reported that the Governor had no further business for the Legislature.

H. R. 324, providing for the compensation of J. H. Lockwood and Geo. Edwards for their services as clerks of the State of West Virginia, was taken up and ordered and passed by a suspension of the rules.

H. R. 156, exempting preachers of the Gospel from working on the roads, was passed by a suspension of the rules.

On motion of Mr. Burdett the Senate took a recess for one hour, when it again met.

H. R. 33, resolving that the Legislature adjourn sine die at 3 o'clock P. M., and is amended so as to read 3 o'clock P. M., and sent back to the House of Delegates.

On motion of Mr. Caldwell a recess was taken until 9 o'clock P. M., at which time the Senate re-assembled and after passing the customary resolutions of thanks to its officers, the clerk read a statement of Mr. Wilson, adjourned to meet on the 13th of January, 1876, to try John S. Burdett, State Treasurer.

THAT \$38,000 DEFICIT.

Majority and Minority Report of the Committee Appointed to Inquire into the Finances of the State.

Yesterday the House of Delegates in regard to the alleged deficit of \$38,000—under Republican rule in the State of West Virginia.

MAJORITY REPORT.

Mr. Pritchard, from the majority of the special committee of seven to inquire into the condition of the State finances, submitted the following:

We, the special committee of seven appointed to investigate the finances of the State from June 20th, 1863, up to the present time, would respectfully say that after examining the books of the Treasurer and Auditor's office, we see no reason for changing the report formerly made by this committee.

(Signed) A. PATCHARD, Chairman.
ROBERT MCLEWAIN,
H. CHAPMAN,
GEO. A. BLANKENHORN,
W. J. WOODS.

MINORITY REPORT.

Mr. Stewart from the Minority of the Committee, submitted the following:

The undersigned members of the Special Committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the State finances, respectfully beg leave to submit the following report in regard to the alleged State deficit of \$38,000:

We find in making the examination for the deficit as ascribed to the report of the Auditor to the House of Delegates of the House of February 24th, 1875, that the first item in the said report of \$23,275 83, the amount stated to be on hand on the 20th of June, 1863, was erroneously inserted in said report as being in the Treasury of the State of West Virginia on that day, the first entries occurring in the treasury cash book both being dated July 2d, 1863, but we find that the amount of \$23,275 83 was in the Treasury of the State of Virginia.

It is necessary to examine into the condition of the Treasury of Virginia, that we find what became of the \$23,275 83 in the Treasury of Virginia, on the 20th day of June, 1863, and we find that amount was disposed of under the following acts of the Assembly of Virginia:

FIRST ACT.

An act making an appropriation to the proposed new State of West Virginia, when the same shall become one of the United States; passed February 4, 1863.

It is stated by the General Assembly of Virginia that the sum of one hundred thousand dollars was and is hereby appropriated to the State of West Virginia out of the treasury of the State of Virginia, and that the same shall be paid to the Treasury of the State of West Virginia, and also, of all moneys that up to that time have been expended in such manner and the same expended out of all moneys shall remain in the Treasury and continue to be the property of this State.

The report of S. P. Hildreth, who was employed by Governor Pierpont to examine the books of the Auditor and Treasurer of the State, and to report the amount of balance of unexpended appropriations, etc., as is contained

in the foregoing act of Assembly (the Auditor of the State having failed to make one as required by law), bound with the Senate Journal of West Virginia of 1863, was adopted by the joint committee of the House of Delegates and Senate of West Virginia as the only source from whence the figures could be obtained by which a settlement between the two States, under the law above mentioned, could be made. From this report we are enabled to make the following statement:

Balance in Treasury June 20, 1861.....	\$23,275 83
From which deduct the amount of unexpended appropriations for various purposes to be retained in the Treasury amount received from counties outside the State of West Virginia, four counties.....	15,570 71
.....	21,574 28
Less amount paid in said counties.....	14,523 73
.....	\$7,050 55

Leaving a balance due West Va. of.....\$185,771 50

On the 24th day of July, 1862, Treasurer Hildreth paid into the Treasury.....\$150,000 00

Leaving a balance yet unpaid under the act.....\$35,771 50

On the 4th day of August 1863 (see Senate Journal, page 90), we find recorded as follows: "A message from the House of Delegates by Mr. Kramer announced the passage of the following resolution, and asked concurrence of the Senate:

Resolved, by the Legislature of West Virginia, That the Treasurer of the State of West Virginia be authorized to receive and place to the credit of West Virginia, the sum of forty-five thousand seven hundred and seventy-one dollars and fifty cents, to be paid to the State of West Virginia by the joint committee appointed to settle and adjust the accounts of the State under the act of February 4, 1863.

On motion of Mr. Bunker said resolution was laid on the table, and Mr. Bunker obtained leave to withdraw the report upon the same subject which was presented yesterday."

On page 96, same book, we find that on a motion of Mr. Burley that the Senate concur in the joint resolution authorizing the Treasurer of this State to receive and place to the credit of West Virginia, the sum of forty-five thousand seven hundred and seventy-one dollars and fifty cents, to be paid to the State of West Virginia by the joint committee appointed to settle and adjust the accounts of the State under the act of February, 1863.

Ordered—that Mr. Burley inform the House of Delegates therein" which said amount was paid as follows:

Nov. 7, paid by Treasurer Smith.....\$15,000 00

Jan. 27, paid by Treasurer Smith.....2,771 46

Total.....\$17,771 46

Which appears to leave the State of West Virginia in debt for the sum of \$18,000 00.

Now, having disposed of the first item in the report of the Auditor, we are enabled from the balance of the figures therein contained to make up the following statements showing what was actually the condition of the Treasury of West Virginia on the first day of October 1863.

Nov. 7, paid by Treasurer Smith.....\$15,000 00

Jan. 27, paid by Treasurer Smith.....2,771 46

Total.....\$17,771 46

Disbursements from the formation of the State to Oct. 1st of 1863.....\$129,924 15

Leaving balance Oct. 1, 1863, of.....\$112,152 69

Which is the same as reported to the Governor by Mr. Tarr, Treasurer of the State, as being the balance on hand on that day.

NO DEFICIT.

From the above facts and figures it is very plain that there has never existed any deficit of any kind in the Treasury, as is claimed in the report of the Auditor as of the 1st day of October 1863, but that every dollar that has ever come into the Treasury of the State of West Virginia is clearly accounted for, and we have come to the conclusion that the alleged deficit of \$38,000 grew out of a mistake in counting the Treasury of Virginia with that of the State of West Virginia.

(Signed) C. J. STEWART,
JOSEPH SNIDER.

List of Acts Passed by the Legislature at the Adjourned Session Ending Yesterday.

An Act to amend and re-enact chapter 73 of the Code concerning the authentication of deeds and other instruments.

An Act to amend and re-enact chapter 114 of the Code, relating to the time within which school trustees and members of the Board of Education shall qualify.

An Act changing the time for holding the circuit courts in the county of Morgan.

An Act authorizing the payment of the sum of ninety-eight dollars and eighty-four cents to Dr. D. Mayer.

An Act to amend and re-enact the one hundred and twenty-fifth section of the Acts of 1863, relating to the fees of officers," approved March 21, 1873.

An Act amending and re-enacting sections 2 and 3 of chapter 118 of the Acts of 1872-3, also to amend sections 40, 41, 42 and 43, chapter 118 of the Acts of 1872-3, entitled "An Act making general provisions for filling vacancies by the people and for providing for filling vacancies."

An Act concerning the Weston and Westport railroad.

An Act providing for the removal of causes from one court to another.

An Act providing for the collections of taxes.

An Act for the relief of Evan Hinton, Sheriff of Summers county.

An Act amending and re-enacting section 4 of chapter 150 of the Acts of 1872-3, relating to the collection of taxes on land confined on charges of bastardy.

An Act making appropriations of public money to pay members and officers of the Legislature, committee clerks and pages mileage and per diem for the adjourned session commencing on the 10th day of November, 1875.

An Act to authorize the establishment and maintenance of infirmaries, houses of refuge, houses of correction, and work-houses in certain counties, cities and towns.

An Act to repeal an act entitled "An Act authorizing the Mayor and City Council of the city of Parkersburg and the Board of Supervisors of Wood county, West Virginia, to lend their bonds for manufacturing purposes," passed December 15, 1868.

An Act to amend and re-enact section 54 of chapter 47 of the Code of West Virginia.

An Act relating to insane persons in the Penitentiary.

An Act to repeal chapter 91 of the Acts of 1872-3, entitled "An Act to amend and re-enact sections 10, 13 and 17 of chapter 150 of the Code, in relation to the examination of persons charged with crime," approved April 3, 1864.

An Act repealing and re-enacting sections 23 and 30 of chapter 64 of the Code.

An Act authorizing the County Courts to levy a tax on dogs for the purpose of raising a fund with which to reimburse owners of sheep for injury done thereto by dogs, and to repeal section 45 of chapter 39 of the Code.

An Act to amend and re-enact section 11 of chapter 18 of the Acts of 1872-3.

An Act appropriating money to pay John H. Showalter and Stewart Reese for services at the penitentiary.

An Act relating to the compensation of officers for conveying inmates from the jail to the asylum for the insane.

An Act to amend the law relating to the publication of the reports of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

An Act for ascertaining and distributing

certain money collected for school and building purposes in the late Court House, in Taylor county.

An Act to amend and re-enact section 41, chapter 125 of the Code, in relation to rules and pleadings.

An Act to protect birds and game.

An Act authorizing certain laws and ordinances to be suspended and annulled.

An Act to amend and re-enact chapter 107 of the Code, relating to Clerks of Courts.

An Act to prevent cruelty to animals.

An Act to amend and re-enact sections 4 and 5, chapter 131 of the Code, concerning the Court Docket; inquiry of damages trials by jury, and judgments and decrees of the court for money.

An Act to amend and re-enact sections 2 and 3 of chapter 138 of the Code, concerning security for costs.

An Act to amend and re-enact sections 1, 10, 11 and 12 of chapter 151 of the Code, concerning offences against public policy.

An Act to amend and re-enact chapter 114 of the Code of West Virginia, concerning general provisions relating to the courts.

An Act appropriating money to pay for labor in former appropriations made for public printing heretofore done under contract.

An Act appropriating \$5,000 conditionally for the construction of a road from Charleston, in county of Kanawha, by way of Spencer, in the county of Boone, to Elizabeth, in the county of Wirt.

An Act fixing the times for holding the Courts in the Ninth Judicial Circuit.

Joint Resolution No. 19, making it the duty of the Attorney General to enter pleas in the way of public improvement.

We believe the people of St. Clairsville are like the people of other towns, and that such declarations as that of the News are altogether undeserved. St. Clairsville is a small town, and there is not near so much wealth there as most people believe, nor is there so much poverty there, as in other towns. The general character of the people is in good circumstances, and so are the farmers adjacent to the town. Within the last half dozen years St. Clairsville has built the best public school building in the county at an expense of about \$40,000, has contributed heavily to the construction of two turnpikes which cost about \$150,000, and has built a church which cost about \$15,000; none of which produce one per cent of direct revenue. What like population in the county has done any better in the way of public improvement?

We hope and believe St. Clairsville will put these fan-finders to shame by constructing the first narrow-gauge railway in the county.

Moody and Sankey.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The services at the prayer meeting of Moody and Sankey were well attended to-day. After singing and prayer, Mr. Moody addressed the congregation on the subject of prayer, stating that we must ask for our prayers in Christ's name and for His sake and not our own. The speaker quoted the text where Christ promised his disciples that what they asked of the Father in my name He will give them, and remarked that in prayer that injunction should be followed. Furthermore, prayer should be for the glory of God and not for our own. Many a mother's prayers are for her son, and not for the glory of God, but that she may have more peace at home. The speaker, Mr. Moody, then read a variety of verses, concluded by a strong appeal to the congregation relative to the high importance of prayers and the necessity of their conditions enumerated above. The congregation then sang "Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah," and after prayer they were dismissed.

Attempt to Escape from Jail.

LOUISVILLE, December 23.—A number of prisoners confined in the city jail made an attempt to escape to-night. Several of the prisoners were confined in the part of the building had been committing depredations by breaking window glass, furniture, &c., and behaving badly in a general way. Last evening several of them were placed in a cell to themselves, and all went quietly to sleep. At about 11 o'clock, however, a commotion was raised. Reprising to the scene, the turnkey discovered that the rascals had set fire to the mattresses on which they had slept, with the evident purpose of making their escape by overpowering the jail officers. The fire was almost smothered, but the building burned rapidly and the cell was dense with smoke and flames almost suffocating those within. The attendant obtained assistance as soon as possible and rescued the negroes from their perilous position, but not without the loss of several of the prisoners. Some of the men were insensible when rescued and a very few minutes would have settled their deaths. The prisoners when taken from the fire were willing to be locked up anywhere, and made no effort to escape.

An Important Decision.

ST. PAUL, December 23.—This afternoon in the Circuit Court before Judge Dillon a verdict was rendered in the test case against Thomas Simpson, of Winona, for all that was claimed in the suit of the Green Bay & Minnesota Railroad against the citizens of Winona. The suit was of a class involving \$35,000 against the citizens of Winona, who subscribed the bonds in favor of the Green Bay Railroad and afterwards attempted to evade the payment on the grounds that the railroad had not complied with the agreement. The verdict was in favor of the R. R. company can recover \$35,000 with interest from various wealthy citizen of Winona, and also that the defendants had no legal defense for their attempted repudiation.

A Fire Bug Confesses.

CHICAGO, December 23.—On the 13th of this month, a man giving his name as Thomas Carroll, of Dunkirk, N. Y., confessed to the officers of this city, that in January, 1874, he set fire to the Vanderburgh Building, in this city, and that he was entirely destroyed, and the watchman so badly burned that he died shortly after. Carroll then fled and has been here for some time. When he confessed he was put in jail, and word sent to the authorities of Dunkirk, of Carroll's confession and arrest. He will be conveyed to Dunkirk to-night. He has made two attempts to commit suicide since his arrest.

No More Lottery Tickets.

ST. LOUIS, December 23.—Under instructions from Judge Knight, of the Circuit Court, Chief of Police McDonough locked up the tickets for the Missouri State Lottery that no further selling of tickets or drawings would be permitted after to-day.

SENTENCED TO THE PENITENTIARY.

A. W. Hubbard, Henry F. Edwards and George W. Malone, counterfeiters, were sentenced in the District Court to-day to five years in the penitentiary.

Ice George in the Delaware.

PORT JERVIS, December 23.—The recent mild weather has had the effect of raising the Delaware river sufficiently high to move the ice. A gorge formed at Narrowsburgh this morning damming the water which is rising rapidly. This is one of the places where the ice gorge formed last winter which resulted so disastrously.

The Boston Gas Explosion.

BOSTON, December 23.—No further discoveries have been made of bodies at the scene of the gas explosion last night, and as several persons reported missing have appeared, it is probable that the actual number of lives lost will be narrowed down to five, one or two of the wounded may die.

Accepted the Challenge.

NEW HAVEN, December 23.—Harvard has accepted the Yale challenge for an eight oared, four mile race.

FIRE RECORD.

NEW YORK, December 23.—A fire in a building on Vesey street caused losses amounting to \$40,000.

Reduced Freight Rates.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The following are the reduced freight rates from Philadelphia, which went into effect on the Pennsylvania Central to-day:

Chicago—First class, 27; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 15; fifth, 14.

St. Louis—First class, 35; second, 32; third, 25; fourth, 20; fifth, 21.

Cincinnati—First class, 27; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 15; fifth, 14. The reduction is about 50 per cent.

How Tweed in Havana.

HAVANA, December 23.—A report is current that Wm. M. Tweed arrived here last Tuesday on a schooner. Several New Yorkers, who knew him by sight, say they saw him yesterday and to-day in different parts of the city.

An Act giving the consent of the Legislature of the State of West Virginia to the purchase by the United States of land within this State for public purposes.

An Act concerning clerk's fees in certain cases.

An Act to amend and re-enact section 6 of chapter 55 of the Acts of 1872-3, concerning the Attorney General and the attorneys for the State.

An Act in relation to the jurisdiction of such courts of limited jurisdiction as have been or may be established in incorporated towns or cities over cases for violation of ordinances of such towns or cities, and regulating the proceedings in such cases.

An Act amending and re-enacting sections 14, 21 and 25 of chapter 11 of the Acts of 1872-3, entitled "An Act relating to the school district of Wheeling."

An Act to exempt ministers of the Gospel from working on the public roads.

An Act amending and re-enacting sections 3, 9, 10, 20, 28 and 29 of chapter 119 of the Acts of 1871, incorporating the city of Huntington.

An Act providing compensation to J. H. Lockwood and George Edwards for land conveyed by them to the State, to the Board of Education of the city of Moundsville to the Penitentiary grounds.

A Good Word for St. Clairsville.

(For particulars see independent.)

The people of St. Clairsville and the Barnsville Enterprise are disposed to make light of the proposition to construct a narrow-gauge railway from St. Clairsville to New's Bliding. It is a small thing, Messieurs News and Enterprise, and is therefore within reach of those engaged in it. As to the New's Bliding, it is a small thing. We believe the people of St. Clairsville are like the people of other towns, and that such declarations as that of the News are altogether undeserved. St. Clairsville is a small town, and there is not near so much wealth there as most people believe, nor is there so much poverty there, as in other towns. The general character of the people is in good circumstances, and so are the farmers adjacent to the town. Within the last half dozen years St. Clairsville has built the best public school building in the county at an expense of about \$40,000, has contributed heavily to the construction of two turnpikes which cost about \$150,000, and has built a church which cost about \$15,000; none of which produce one per cent of direct revenue. What like population in the county has done any better in the way of public improvement?

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NEW YORK, December 23.—A fire in a building on Vesey street caused losses amounting to \$40,000.

Reduced Freight Rates.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The following are the reduced freight rates from Philadelphia, which went into effect on the Pennsylvania Central to-day:

Chicago—First class, 27; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 15; fifth, 14.

St. Louis—First class, 35; second, 32; third, 25; fourth, 20; fifth, 21.

Cincinnati—First class, 27; second, 23; third, 18; fourth, 15; fifth, 14. The reduction is about 50 per cent.

How Tweed in Havana.

HAVANA, December 23.—A report is current that Wm. M. Tweed arrived here last Tuesday on a schooner. Several New Yorkers, who knew him by sight, say they saw him yesterday and to-day in different parts of the city.

An Act giving the consent of the Legislature of the State of West Virginia to the purchase by the United States of land within this State